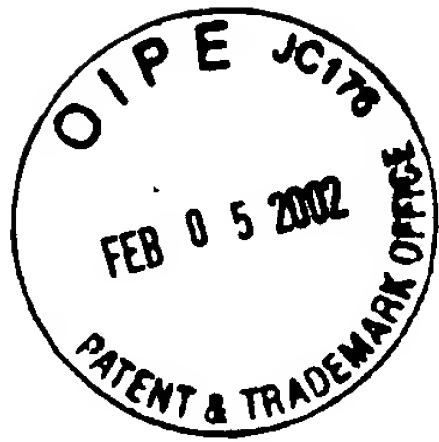


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TBray



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PATENT
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Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 5, 2001 _____

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: (Paula Faulk Hurley)

Paula Faulk Hurley

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Choo et al.

Application No.: 09/424,487

Filed: February 29, 2000

For: NUCLEIC ACID BINDING
PROTEINS

Examiner: H. Robinson

Art Unit: 1653

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the or each zinc finger has the general primary structure

(A) $X^a C X_{2-4} C X_{2-3} F X^c X X X X L X X H X X X^b H -$

linker

-1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

wherein X (including X^a , X^b and X^c) is any amino acid.

9/22/01
E